

Claims:

1. An enteral composition designed for metabolically stressed patients comprising:
5 a protein source providing about 15% to about 20% of the energy of the composition;
a carbohydrate source; and
a lipid source including a mixture of medium and long chain triglycerides, the enteral composition having a caloric density of at least about
10 1.4 kcal/ml.
2. The enteral composition of claim 1 wherein the composition provides a ratio of non-protein calories per gram nitrogen of at least approximately 90:1.
3. The enteral composition of claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the protein source consists essentially of partially hydrolysed whey proteins.
4. An enteral composition for a metabolically stressed patient comprising:
15 about 15% to about 20% of the energy of the composition of partially hydrolysed whey protein;
20 a carbohydrate source; and
a lipid source including a mixture of medium and long chain triglycerides;
the composition having an energy density of at least about 1.4 kcal/ml
25 and a ratio of non-protein calories per gram of nitrogen of at least about 90:1.
5. The enteral composition of any of claims 1 to 4 wherein the lipid source provides about 20% to 50% of the energy of the composition.
6. The enteral composition of any of claims 1 to 5 which includes at least
30 about 100% of U.S. RDA of vitamins and minerals in about 1500 kcal.
7. The enteral composition of any of claims 1 to 5 wherein the composition includes per 1500 kcal of composition:
35 a zinc source providing from approximately 28.5 to 43.5 mg;
a vitamin C source providing from approximately 405 to 615 mg;

a selenium source providing from approximately 60 to 90 mg;
a taurine source providing from approximately 120 to 180 mg; and
a L-carnitine source providing from approximately 120 to 180 mg.

5 8. The enteral composition of any of claims 1 to 7 further including a source of β -carotene.

10 9. The enteral composition of any of claims 1 to 8 which has an energy density of about 1.4 to about 1.8 kcal/ml.

10 10. A method for providing nutrition to a metabolically stressed patient comprising the step of administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising:

15 a protein source comprising approximately 15% to about 20% of the energy of the composition;

a carbohydrate source; and

a lipid source including a mixture of medium and long chain triglycerides, the enteral composition having a caloric density of at least about 1.4 kcal/ml.

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